

Assemblyman  
**PAUL KORETZ**

**Forty-second Assembly District**

*proudly representing the communities of West Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, Century City, Westwood, Bel Air, Brentwood, West Los Angeles, Hollywood, Hancock Park, Universal City, Studio City, and Sherman Oaks*



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**July 14, 2004**

**Contact: Teresa Stark**  
**916-319-2042**  
**916-715-2203 (cell)**

**ASSEMBLYMAN KORETZ LAUDS SENATE REJECTION OF  
FEDERAL MARRIAGE AMENDMENT**

**(West Hollywood)** Assemblyman Paul Koretz (D-West Hollywood) today commented on the U.S. Senate's rejection of the Federal Marriage Amendment.

"The U.S. Senate vote today rejecting President Bush's effort to write discrimination into the U.S. Constitution is a victory for gay and lesbian families across the country and, indeed, for all Americans. Using the constitutional amendment process for short-term presidential political advantage has been soundly rejected by the U.S. Senate and by the American people," said Assemblyman Koretz.

On a motion to close debate on the Federal Marriage Amendment that would have lead to a vote on the amendment, 48 senators voted yes and 50 senators voted no. Conservatives failed to get even majority support on the measure. Constitutional amendments require two-thirds support in both the Senate and the House of Representatives and the approval of three-fourths of the state legislatures.

"Missing from the U.S. Senate debate was an affirmative argument in support of marriage equality. Gay and lesbian couples and their children deserve all the protections afforded to married spouses and anything less than state approved civil marriage is clearly discrimination," noted Koretz.

###